

**Notice of Allowability****Application No.**

10/810,369

**Examiner**

Lana N. Le

**Applicant(s)**

BARRETT, MICHAEL J.

**Art Unit**

2618

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/11/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-17, 19-37 and 39-42.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                      |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                      | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>63006</u> | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                    |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material                | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

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### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with applicant's representative, John Anastasi, on 11/21/06.
3. The application has been amended as follows:
  - in claim 13, line 17, after --- line of travel---, add -----a directional antenna having focused transmit and reception patterns that is coupled to the first transmitter/receiver unit and is adapted to receive and transmit the information signal---;
  - in claim 34, line 14, after -----third passenger vehicles-----, add ----wherein the acts of re-transmitting the information signal are performed by re-transmitting the information signal in a focused transmit pattern-----.
  - cancel claims 18 and 38.
  - in claim 19, line 1, after ---claim---, delete ---18--- and add ---13-----.

### **REASON FOR ALLOWANCE**

4. Claims 1-17, 19-37, 39-42 are allowable over the cited prior art.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
  - a terminal disclaimer has been filed on 9/11/06 to overcome the double patenting rejection filed 5/08/06.

Regarding independent claim 1, the cited prior art disclose a system that provides Toler discloses a system that provides information to a second passenger vehicle, to create an information network between the second passenger vehicle and an information source, the system comprising: a first transmitter/receiver unit disposed on a first passenger vehicle and adapted to receive an information signal that includes the information from the information source, and to transmit the information signal; a third transmitter/receiver unit adapted to receive the information signal and to transmit the information signal, to provide the information signal between the first transmitter/receiver unit and the second passenger vehicle; a second transmitter/receiver unit located on the second passenger vehicle, the second transmitter/receiver unit being adapted to receive the information signal; and a passenger interface coupled to the second transmitter/receiver unit and adapted to provide at least some of the information for access by a passenger associated with the second passenger vehicle.

However, the cited prior art fail to disclose or suggest:

a directional antenna having focused transmit and reception patterns that is coupled to the first transmitter/receiver unit and is adapted to receive and transmit the information signal.

Regarding independent claim 13, the cited prior art disclose a system that provides Toler discloses a system that provides information to a second passenger vehicle, to create an information network between the second passenger vehicle and an information source, the system comprising: a first transmitter/receiver unit disposed on a first passenger vehicle and adapted to receive an information signal that includes the

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information from the information source, and to transmit the information signal; a third transmitter/receiver unit adapted to receive the information signal and to transmit the information signal, to provide the information signal between the first transmitter/receiver unit and the second passenger vehicle; a second transmitter/receiver unit located on the second passenger vehicle, the second transmitter/receiver unit being adapted to receive the information signal; and a passenger interface coupled to the second transmitter/receiver unit and adapted to provide at least some of the information for access by a passenger associated with the second passenger vehicle; wherein each of the first, second and third passenger vehicles travel along a line of travel, and wherein the receipt of information signal and transmission of the information signal between the first, second and third passenger vehicles is along a line of travel.

However, the cited prior art fail to disclose or suggest:

a directional antenna having focused transmit and reception patterns that is coupled to the first transmitter/receiver unit and is adapted to receive and transmit the information signal.

Regarding independent claim 24, the cited prior art disclose a method for providing information from a source to a second passenger vehicle, the method comprising the acts of:

receiving an information signal that includes the information at a first passenger vehicle; receiving the information at the second passenger vehicle; and providing at least some of the information for access by a passenger associated with the second passenger vehicle.

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However, the cited prior art fail to disclose or suggest:

re-transmitting the information signal in a focused transmit pattern from the first passenger vehicle; receiving the information signal and re-transmitting the information signal in a focused transmit pattern to provide the information signal between the first passenger vehicle and the second passenger vehicle.

Regarding claim 34, the cited prior art a method for providing information from a source to a second passenger vehicle, the method comprising acts of:

receiving an information signal that includes the information at a first passenger vehicle; re-transmitting the information signal from the first passenger vehicle; receiving the information signal at a third passenger vehicle and re-transmitting the information signal from the third passenger vehicle to provide the information signal between the first passenger vehicle and the second passenger vehicle; receiving the information at the second passenger vehicle; and providing at least some of the information for access by a passenger associated with the second passenger vehicle.

However, the cited prior art fail to disclose or suggest:

wherein the acts of re-transmitting the information signal are performed by re-transmitting the information signal in a focused transmit pattern.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Conclusion***

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Naidu et al (US 2005/0,003,873), Directional Indicator for Antennas
- Rieder (US 2004/0,053,651), Wireless, especially Mobile, Communication

Device for Communicating with Communication Devices in Vehicles

- Corrigan (US 6,947,742), Aircraft Location System for Airports
- Nobles (US 2,626,348), Airborne Radio Relay and Broadcast System
- Lyle (US 2,542,823), Short wave Broadcast Net.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lana N. Le whose telephone number is (571) 272-7891. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:30-18:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward F. Urban can be reached on (571) 272-7899. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Lana Le



11-21-06

**LANA LE**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**